

SHEPHERDSWELL WITH COLDRED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held in Shepherdswell Village Hall on Wednesday 17 September 2014 at 7:30pm

PRESENT: Councillors B Crush (Chairman), K Catt, M Elgar, P Haselgrove, P Mummery, C Pickaver, K Regan, I Robertson, C White, J Wolfenden
19 Parishioners

IN ATTENDANCE: S Durbidge (Clerk to the Council)
Kent Community Warden Julliette West

101/2014 Apologies: Councillors R Edmond and G Peagram
Dover District Councillor Mog Ovenden

Declaration of other significant interests: Councillors B Crush, K Catt, C White 108/2014abe; C Pickaver 109/2014ab, 111/2014bc, 113/2014a; P Mummery 109/2014bc, 111/2014a; C White 111/2014a.

102/2014 Minutes of last Parish Council Meeting: Minutes of 16 July 2014 were proposed, seconded and approved as a true record.

103/2014 Public Participation:

One member of the public spoke regarding item 108/2014a.
Three members of the public spoke regarding item 108/2014d.
Three members of the public spoke regarding item 111/2014a.
One member of the public spoke regarding item 112/2014b.

104/2014 Clerk's Report – on Matters Arising

- The accounts for 2013/14 have been approved by the External Auditor.
- A formal complaint was submitted to DDC regarding their lack of reply to letters of Council concern regarding planning matters at EKR and Lydden Circuit.
- Network Rail asked to identify their boundary and new access gates were installed at the area of new land at the village hall.
- Application made to DVLA regarding a vehicle (possibly SORN) illegally parked on land maintained at public expense.
- Partially obscured 30mph signs at Church Road, Coldred, finger post damage at Shepherdswell Green and by the Coop reported to Kent Highways.
- Additional play-bark laid and fence and rocking dog repaired at the children's play area.
- Ground levelling works undertaken at the cemetery.
- Vegetation at Scholar's Lane footpath (ER82) cut back.
- Biannual tree safety inspection undertaken, report awaited
- Freedom of Information request received regarding new land at village hall.
Correspondence and verbal update

105/2014 Finance:

a) Balances as at 17 September 2014	£
Current Account	313.88
Business Account	66,831.61

NS&I Account - Village Hall	1,794.06
Car Park a/c	5,092.23

b) Following payments made since the last meeting (all inc vat)	£
AJ Wells (Mole Control)	20.00
Mowll & Mowll (Balance of land purchase fees)	3,029.00
English Landscapes (July)	450.08
PKFLittlejohn (External audit)	240.00

c) To approve payments (all inc vat)	
English Landscapes (August)	450.08
TRM Groundworks (Entrance and gates to new land at village hall)	1,668.00
H C Kennett (Safety work, play equipment & fence repairs, etc)	582.00
Coldred Forum (Plants etc)	107.42
The Play Inspection Company Ltd (Annual Inspection play equipment)	71.94
S Durbidge (Expenses from 17/07/14 – 17/09/14)	120.03

d) The half-year budget forecast was presented and noted.

106/2014 Planning

- a) The Planning Committee Chairman reported on one decision at the 17 September meeting (see Planning Committee minutes).
- b) Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople Land Allocations Local Plan: DDC is inviting gypsies and travellers, landowners, developers, town and parish councils and any other interested parties to identify areas of land that they consider would be suitable for Gypsies and Travellers. A stakeholder event was attended to review measurement criteria in appraisal framework against which sites will be considered.

107/2014 Recreation Ground

- a) Locking devices for play area gates: A price to install a pair of new safety gates was presented together with a report indicating that new gates might offer little advantage over the existing gates (which were considered 'satisfactory' in a recent independent inspection). It was agreed that the provision of gate bolts be investigated and reported to the next meeting.
- b) Inclusive play equipment: **It was resolved that** a Mirage Swing Seat be installed in place of one of the infant swing seats at a cost of £420.00 +installation and vat.
- c) The Annual Inspection of play equipment took place on the 9 September and a report placed in the correspondence folder. It was agreed that the report would be considered at the next meeting.

108/2014 Village Hall

- a) **It was resolved that** planning permission for car park extension be applied for, Parish Plan objective T3.3.
- b) Quotes for car park extension tree work and groundworks were presented for full consideration once planning permission has been received.
- c) **It was resolved that** a generous offer by the Plymouth Brethren Christian Church (PBCC) volunteers to provide a single rough-cut of the new field at no charge be gratefully accepted.
- d) The provision of allotments was considered. Parish Plan objective C2.4.

Meeting adjourned to hear members of the public speak regarding item 108/2014d. Meeting reconvened.

It was resolved that in principle allotments could be established on the new land at the village hall. It was agreed that the proposed Allotment Association be asked to produce a plan for consideration by the Council. It was noted that planning permission may be required and that provision for a permissive path from Moorland Road (ER81) to the village hall be considered.

- e) The provision of a 'rules and ownership sign' for the car park was considered. It was agreed that suitable wording be presented to the next meeting.
- f) **It was resolved that** a quote of £270.00 to remove all scrub and bramble vegetation from vicinity of rear fire exits be accepted.
- g) Shepherdswell Preschool Lease: It was agreed that Cllrs B Crush, R Edmond, K Regan, C White will attend a meeting to be arranged with Shepherdswell Preschool regarding a new 30-year lease.

109/2014 Village Greens

- a) Quotes for dredging work at Coldred pond were considered: - Landtech £1,860.00; Owendens £3,505.70.00; Chunnel Plant no quote received (all +vat). **It was resolved that** Landtech be asked to carry out the specified dredging works.
- b) Sycamore trees at Coldred Green (between Chilli Cottage and phone box): **It was resolved that** three quotes be obtained to carry out works agreed by Mr I Medgett (Tree Safety Inspector) and Coldred Councillors. It was noted that 'Notification of Proposed Works to Trees in Conservation Areas' application will be required.
- c) **It was resolved that** voluntary registration of Shepherdswell and Coldred Greens with the Land Registry is proceeded with. (Ownership of the Greens was vested in the Parish Council under section 8(3) of the Commons Registration Act 1965).

110/2014 Cemetery

- a) **It was resolved that** the Cemetery be voluntarily registered with the Land Registry.

111/2014 Highways

- a) Traffic through Coldred and Shepherdswell: The findings of two traffic surveys were presented to the meeting. The surveys were of traffic counts (am and pm) at Coxhill, Shepherdswell and at The Green and the A2 junction, Coldred. It was agreed that Cllr C Pickaver will endeavour to place this topic for discussion at the next KALC Dover Area Committee alongside a request for other villages in the area to help contribute with experiences and data. **It was resolved that** the Shepherdswell traffic survey should be distributed to the same recipients as the Coldred survey.
- b) Petition received regarding Eythorne Road speed ramps: **It was resolved that** Kent Highways be informed that the speed ramps are ineffective, HGV vibration and noise disturb local residents and request suitable alternative traffic calming measures.
- c) It was reported that the S&SE in Bloom sign and posts at Church Road, Coldred have been damaged by a vehicle. **It was resolved that** a replacement (or updated) sign be sought at a cost of approximately £110.00 +vat.

112/2014 Shepherdswell & Coldred Parish Plan Association

- a) Neighbourhood Development Plan: An application to DDC to designate the whole of the parish of Shepherdswell with Coldred as a 'Neighbourhood Area' was made. Comments submitted to the DDC Consultation Portal regarding this application were noted.
- b) Sustainable Shepherdswell: A request to support Plantlife's 'Road Verge Campaign' was submitted. **It was resolved that** due to the narrow width of many of the roads within the parish and a general lack of footways, no action be taken.

113/2014 Other Items

- a) Public access defibrillator scheme: Item for next agenda.
- b) Policy on acceptance from residents of memorials to be placed in various locations within the parish: It was reported that the draft Policy will be revised and presented to the next meeting.
- c) It was reported that The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 has been amended. **It was resolved that** Standing Order 31 be amended to read 'Reporting of a meeting may only take place in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended and Section 3 of The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014'.

114/2014 Date of next scheduled meeting

Wednesday 15 October 2014 7:30pm in Shepherdswell Village Hall.

Public and press are cordially invited. An agenda will be displayed three clear days before the meeting.

115/2014 Closure of meeting: The meeting closed at 9:17pm

Note: Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting

Reports and Parishioners' Question Time at the Parish Council meeting held in Shepherdswell Village Hall on Wednesday 17 September 2014 at 7:30pm

Kent Community Warden Julliette West

Julliette reported on the following matters dealt with over the past month or so: -

Highway issues including overgrown hedges, debris on road, parking problems and traffic congestion.

Nuisances including noise caused by motorbikes, barking dogs and horse matters.

Thefts reported included vehicle and property items.

Waste services have been involved to deal with dumped household rubbish in litter bins, fly tipping and abandoned vehicles.

Coldred Forum liaison regarding traffic problems including speeding and large vehicles and a Speed Indicator Device (SID) has been requested from Community Safety Unit.

Liaison with Sibertswold School regarding parking problems at Shepherdswell Green etc.

Julliette has been involved with KCC projects including First Aid training, Community Project and Emergency Planning.

Julliette was asked about preventing parked vehicles partly obstructing the footway along Eythorne Road.

Parishioner Questions

- A parishioner spoke to the meeting regarding the provision of social housing for local people following a recent Housing Survey carried out by Shepherdswell & Coldred Parish Plan Association.
It was reported that should suitable land be identified (i.e. an exemption site) and social housing get built on it, the intention is that only local people will be able to occupy these houses.
- A parishioner spoke about a considerable acreage of crop residue (linseed/flax) burning that had taken place on farmland between Shepherdswell and Coldred. Apparently Environmental Health at DDC do not consider this a problem within their remit although the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) state that it is.

Note: This DDC factsheet includes information regarding linseed residues: -
<http://www.dover.gov.uk/Environment/Factsheets/Crop-Burning.aspx>